

## Family Law Section Report 2017-2018

### Executive:

Chair: Jurgen Feldschmid, Duboff Edwards Haight and Schachter

Vice Chair: Connie Petersen, Petersen King

Past Chair: Jessica Dillon, Tapper Cuddy LLP

### Members:

Robynne Kazina, Taylor McCaffrey LLP

Marcelin Murray, Fillmore Riley LLP

Reannah J. Hocken, Deeley Fabbri Sellen Law Corporation

Maria M. Mitousis, Petersen King

Meetings: Executive met once per month from September to May.

### Legal Education Seminars (all Law at Lunches unless otherwise noted):

- November 2017 – Variation Orders in Family Proceedings, featuring The Honourable Madam Justice MacPhail, Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba;
- December 2017 – Acting for Youth Clients in Child Protection and Family Division Matters – Considerations and Practical Tips, featuring The Honourable Mr. Justice Thatcher, Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba;
- March 2018 – All day Joint Bench and Bar Symposium: The Tough Stuff: Family Trusts, Pensions, Professional & Family Corporations, and The Hague Service Convention & High Conflict Cases;
- May 2018 – The 6 Minute Family Lawyer – 10 topics. 10 presenters. 6 minutes each – answers and information in a nutshell to tricky family law questions and concepts. Topics included principal residences, unequal division/trust claims, CFS involvement in your FD matter, disputed dates, and Part IV accountings.

### January Mid-Winter 2018:

- A Year in Review of important National and Manitoba family law cases presented by Aaron Franks and Lawrence Pinsky;
- Family Matters: Using Child Specialists, Parenting Coaches, Mediation and Arbitration, Moderator: Connie Petersen;
- Effective Cross-Examination of Experts, Moderator: Tyler Grant.

### Committees and submissions:

- Joint Committee of the family law judiciary, bar, court administration, Legal Aid, Family Conciliation and other key stakeholders in the family justice system.
- Submission on Review of *The Pension Benefits Act* (PBA) – Public Consultation Process prepared by Maria M. Mitousis.
- Submissions to Advisory Committee Chaired by Allan Fineblit on Family Law Reform.

### Involvement with National Section:

- One executive member attends the annual National Family Law Section meeting in Ottawa each fall to learn of programs and trends across the country and to attend

a second day meeting with the Department of Justice to learn of new government programs and to interact with the federal government to make improvements in area of family law;

- Participation in bi-monthly conference calls with provincial chairs of other Family Law Sections.

#### Social Events

- December 2017 – Annual Holiday Party attended by family lawyers, family Judges and Masters hosted at Tapper Cuddy LLP;
- June 2018 – Annual Family Law BBQ attended by family lawyers, family Judges and Masters hosted at Tavern United, 260 Hargrave.

Submitted by,  
Jurgen Feldschmid, Chair, MBA Family Law Section